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KNUCKLES

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The Dark Legion

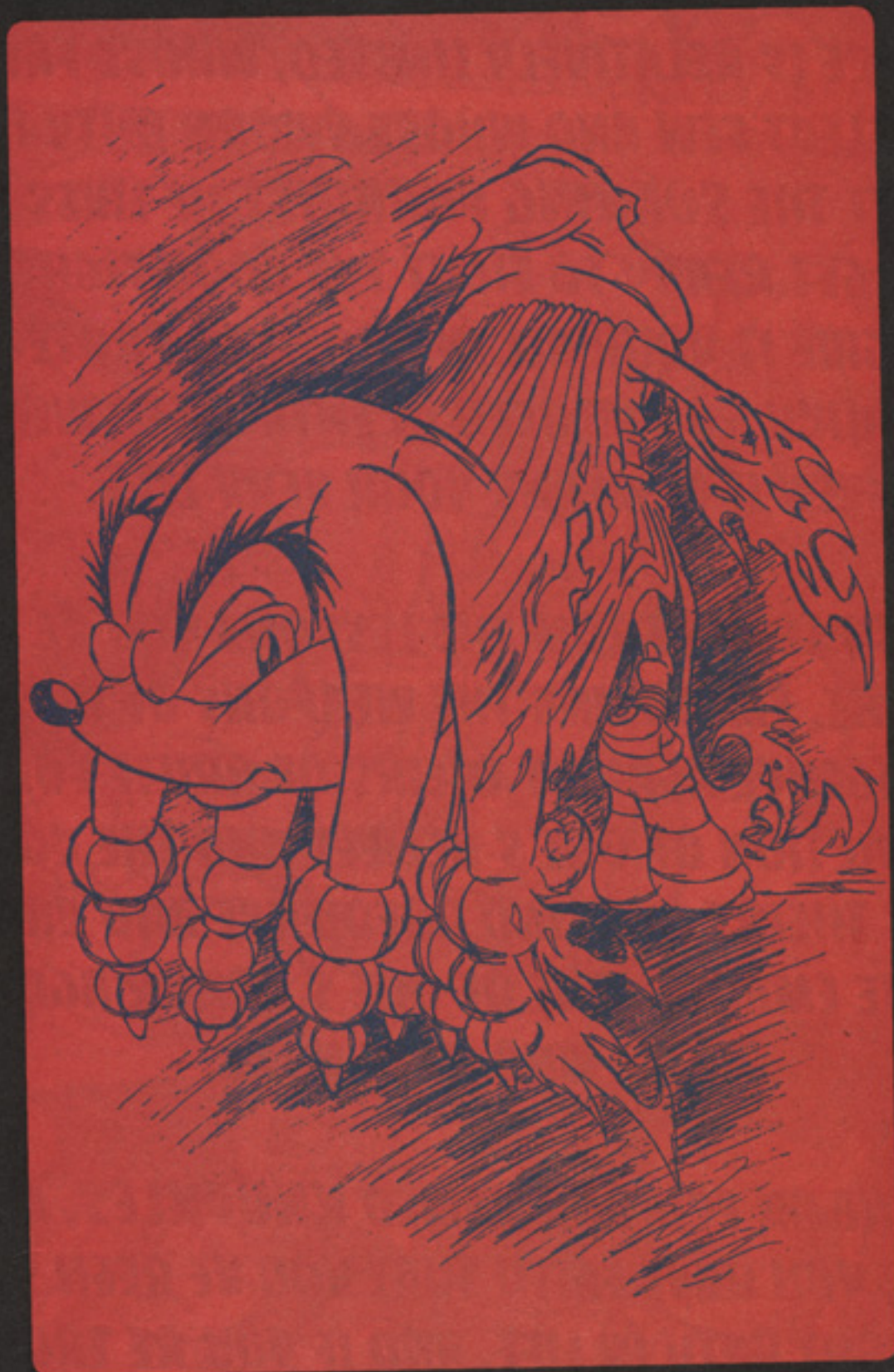


#3
OF A THREE ISSUE
MINI-SERIES

SPAZ/
PENDERS

KNUCKLES™

The Dark Legion



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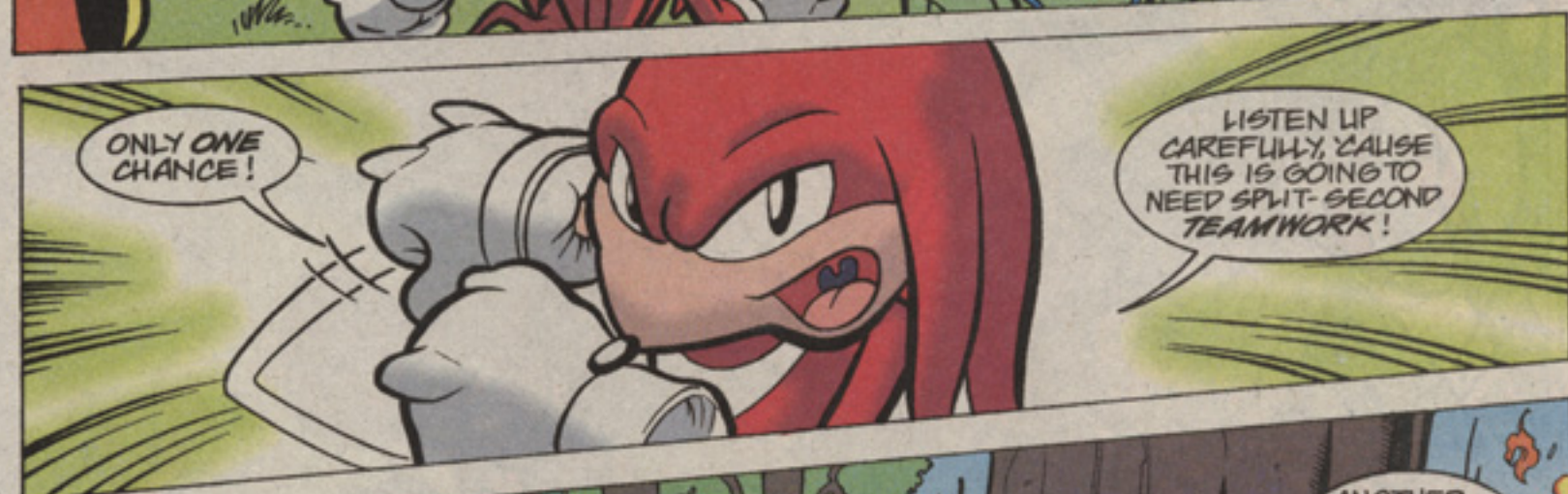
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**WHAT DOES ONE DO WHEN FACED WITH AN ENEMY
WHOSE RESOURCES SEEM LIMITLESS, WHOSE
NUMBERS ARE MANY, AND WHOSE GOAL IS TOTAL
VICTORY NO MATTER "WHAT" THE COST?**

**IF YOU'RE AN ECHIDNA NAMED KNUCKLES, WHOSE
EXPERIENCE IS RELATIVELY LIMITED, WHOSE FRIENDS
ARE A SELECT FEW AND WHOSE SWORN DUTY IS TO
PROTECT THE SOARING PARADISE HE LIVES ON,
YOU GET READY TO FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT.
YOU GIVE IT YOUR ALL IN ORDER TO PROTECT
THAT WHICH YOU'VE BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH...
EVEN IF IT MEANS YOUR VERY LIFE.**

**YOU ALSO LEARN FROM THE LESSONS YOU'VE BEEN
TAUGHT, EMPLOYING THE WEAPONS OF ONE'S
INTELLIGENCE AGAINST THEIRS OF BRUTE FORCE.
THE CONVICTION OF ONE'S BELIEFS AND THE COURAGE
AGAINST THEIRS OF BLIND OBEDIENCE AND CRUELTY
AND THE EMBODIMENT OF ONE'S HONOR AGAINST
THOSE WHO HAVE NONE.**

**IF YOU'RE AN ECHIDNA NAMED KNUCKLES, ABOVE
ALL ELSE, YOU HAVE FAITH THAT YOU'VE BEEN SHOWN
THE RIGHT PATH IN LIFE, AND IF YOU'RE TRUE TO
YOURSELF, YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR
BUT FEAR ITSELF...**





KNUCKLES™

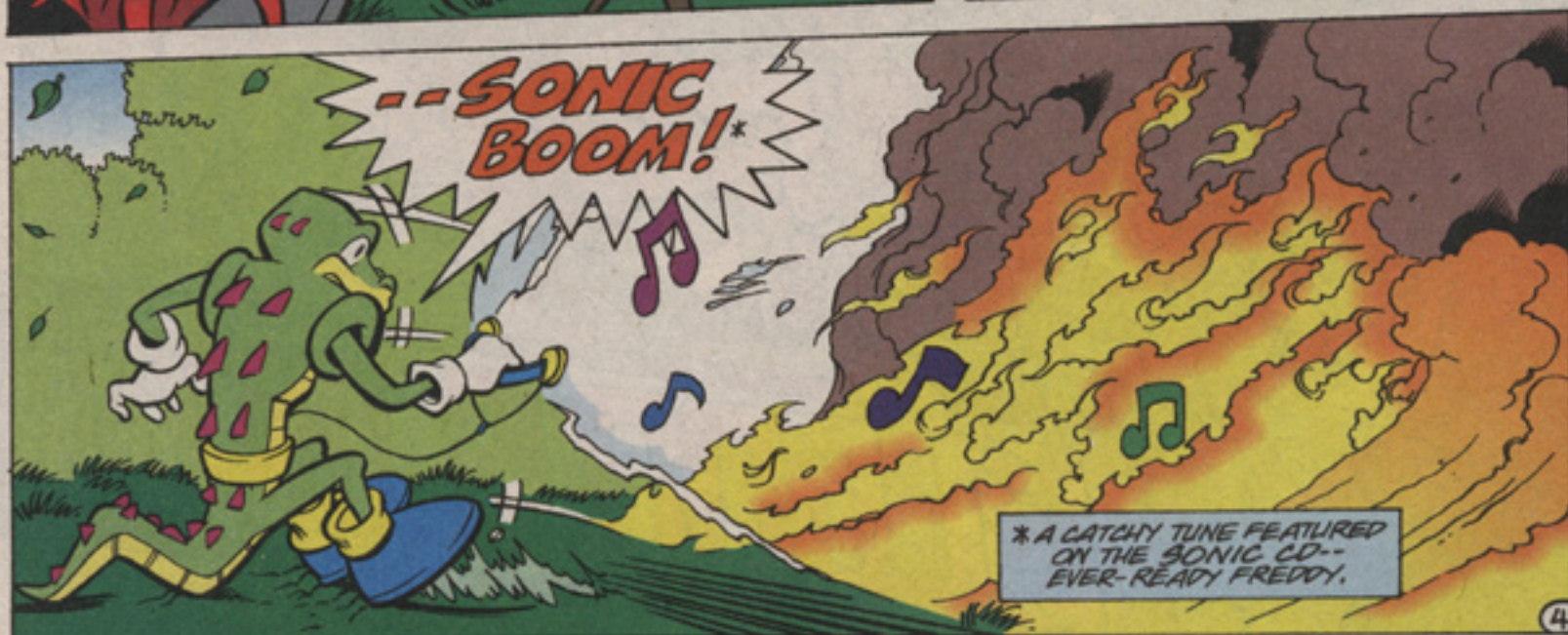
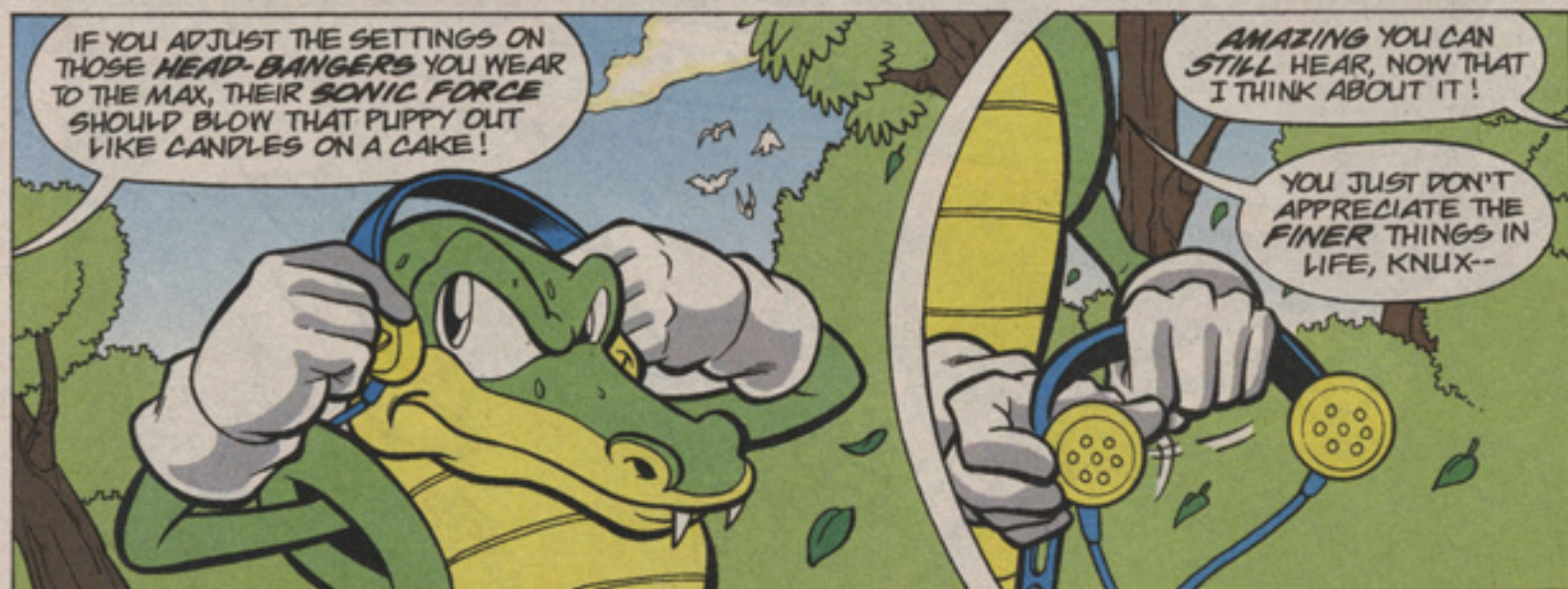
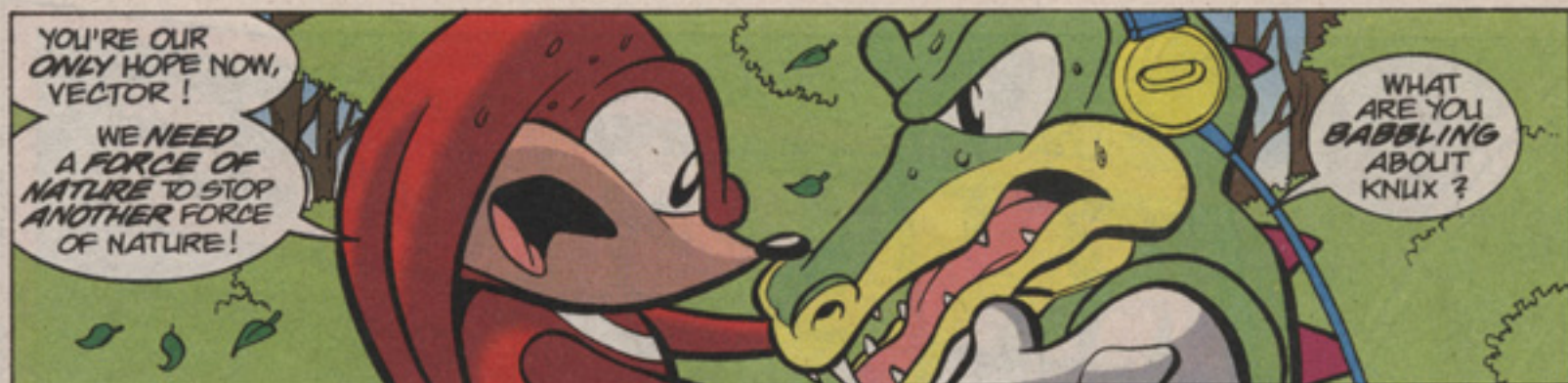
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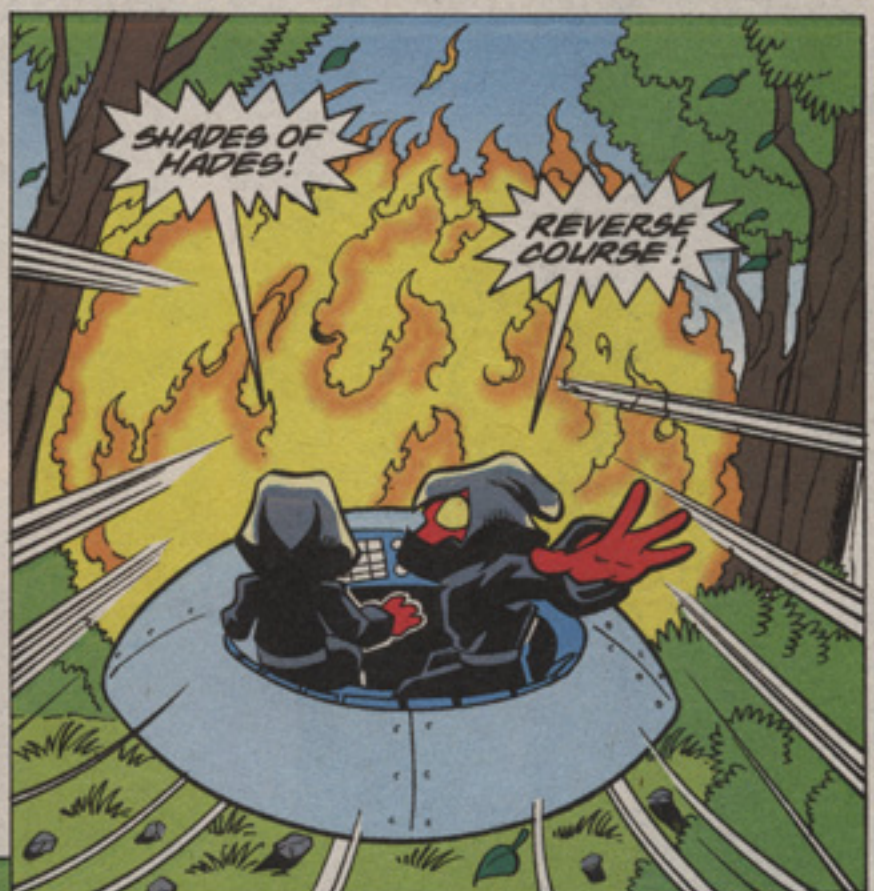
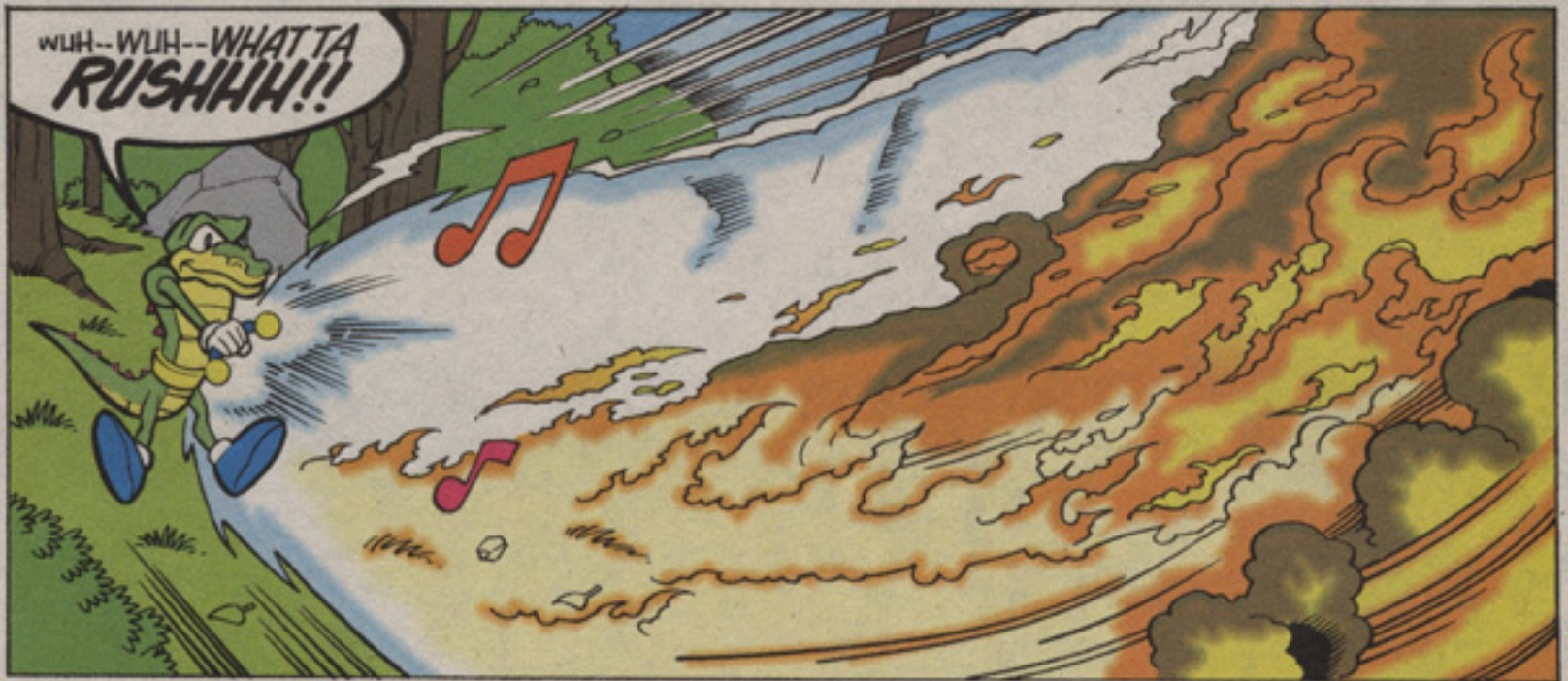
BOOK THREE

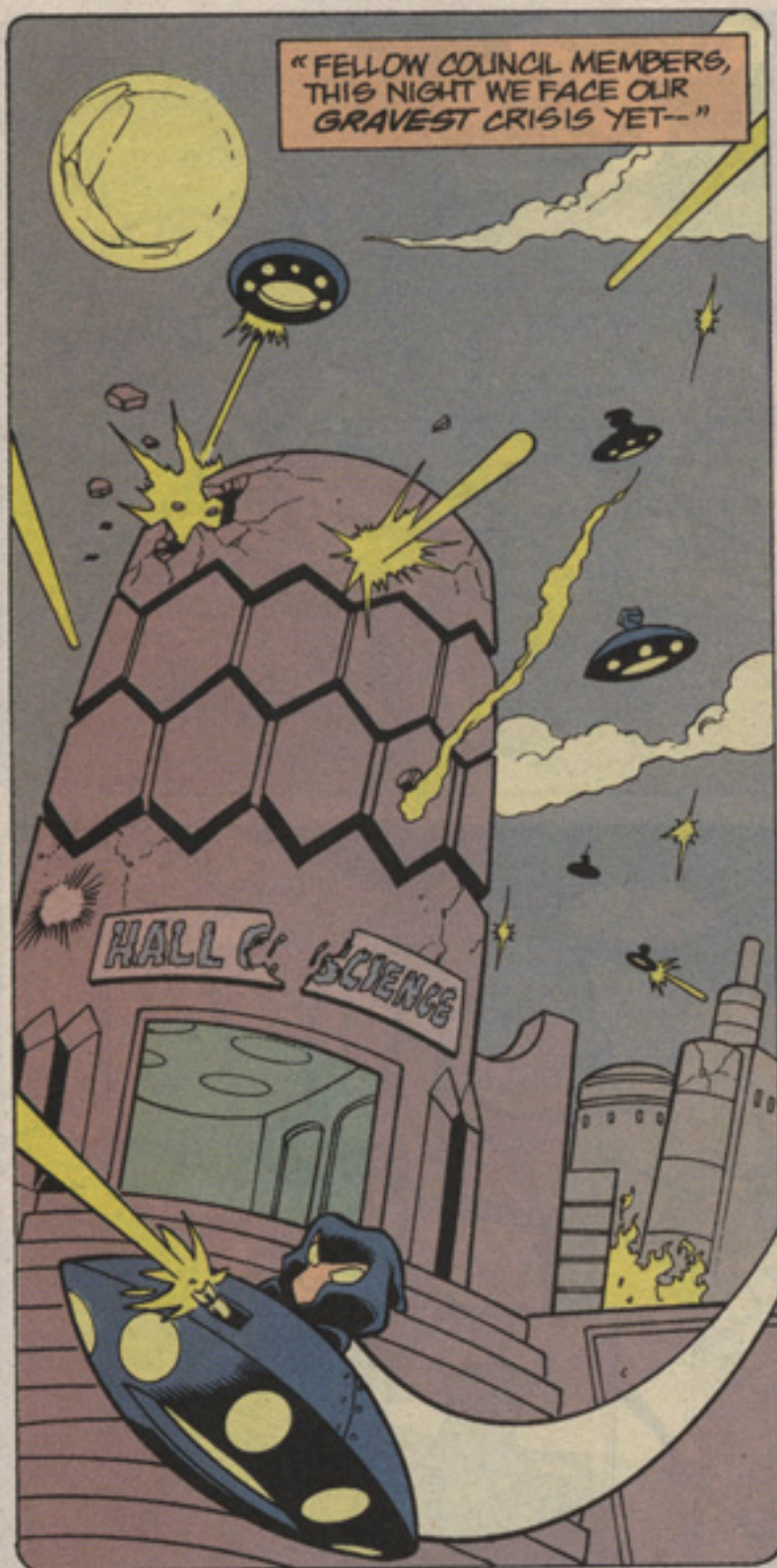
--WE'RE
STILL FACING
THE FIRE!

BOOM!

BLOOD IS THICKER





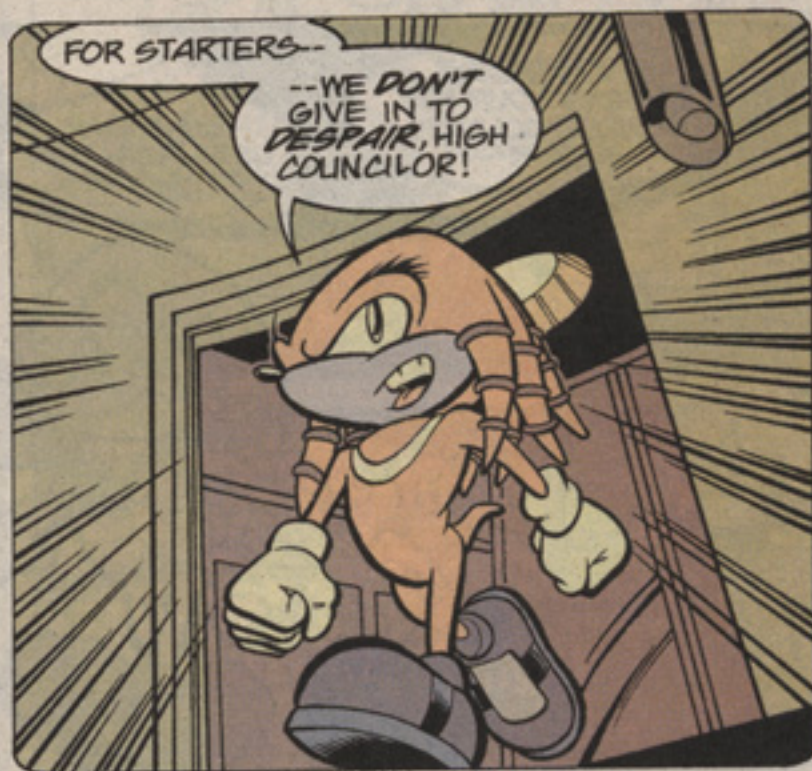


"FELLOW COUNCIL MEMBERS,
THIS NIGHT WE FACE OUR
GRAVEST CRISIS YET--"



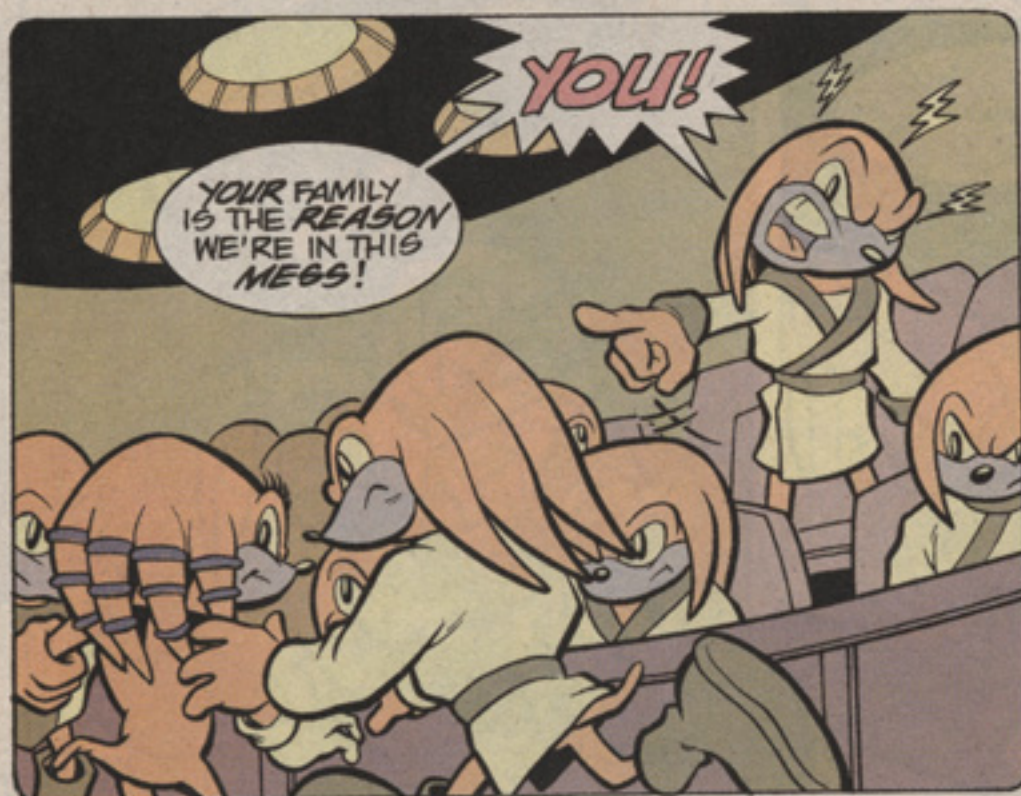
--AS OUR FELLOW ECHIDNA
STAND POISED TO ENGAGE IN
CIVIL WAR!

WHATEVER
SHALL WE
DO?



FOR STARTERS--

--WE DON'T
GIVE IN TO
DESPAIR, HIGH
COUNCILOR!



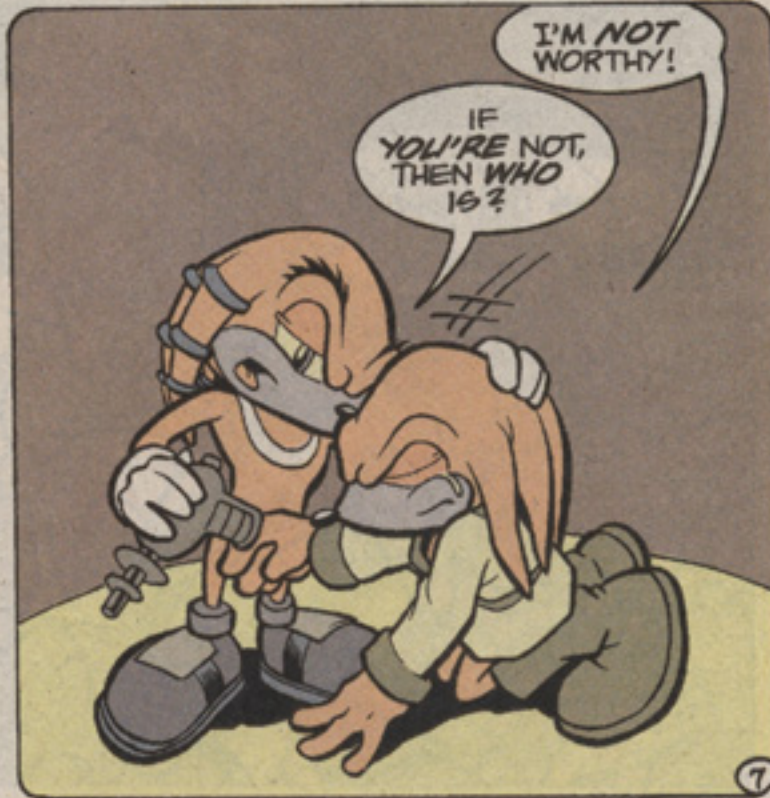
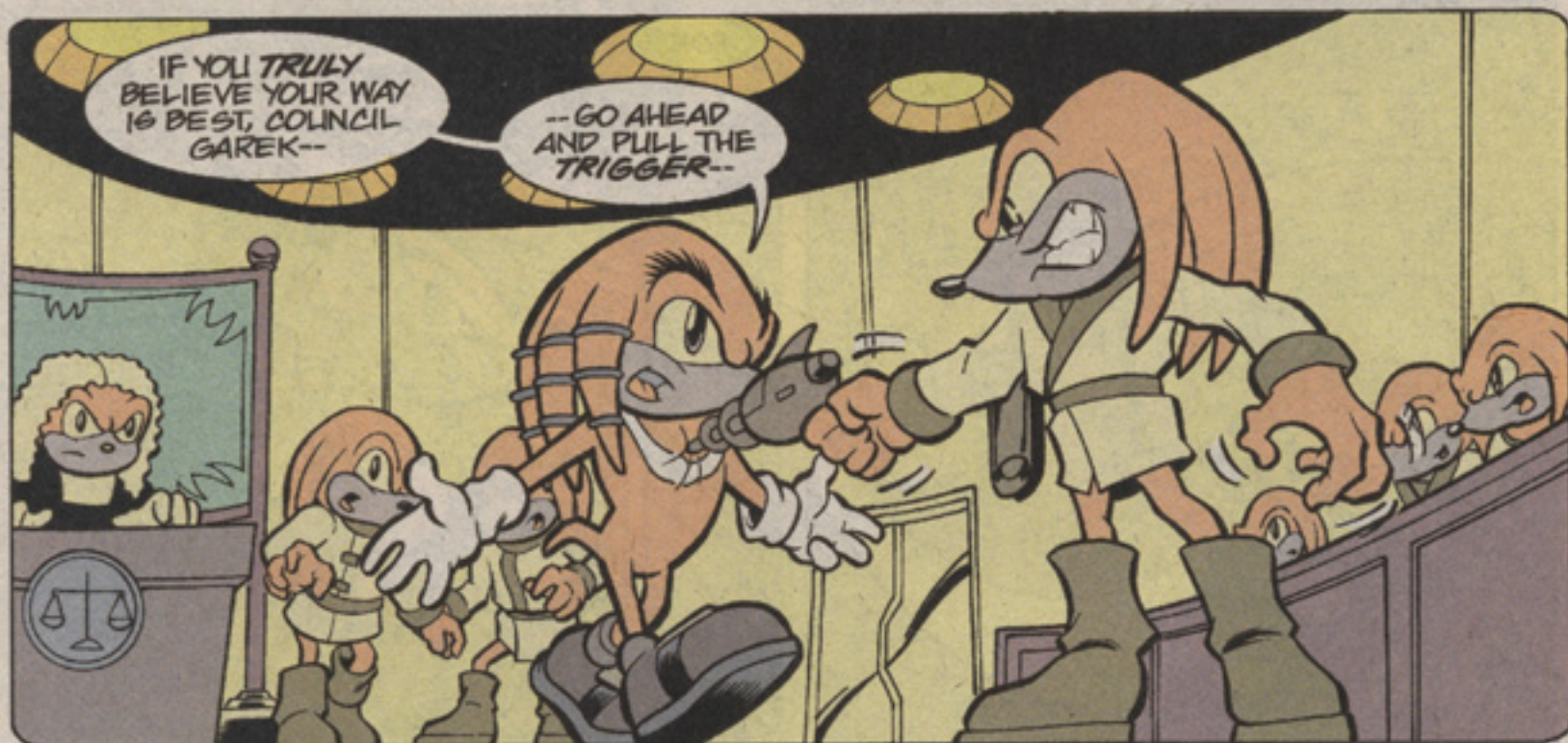
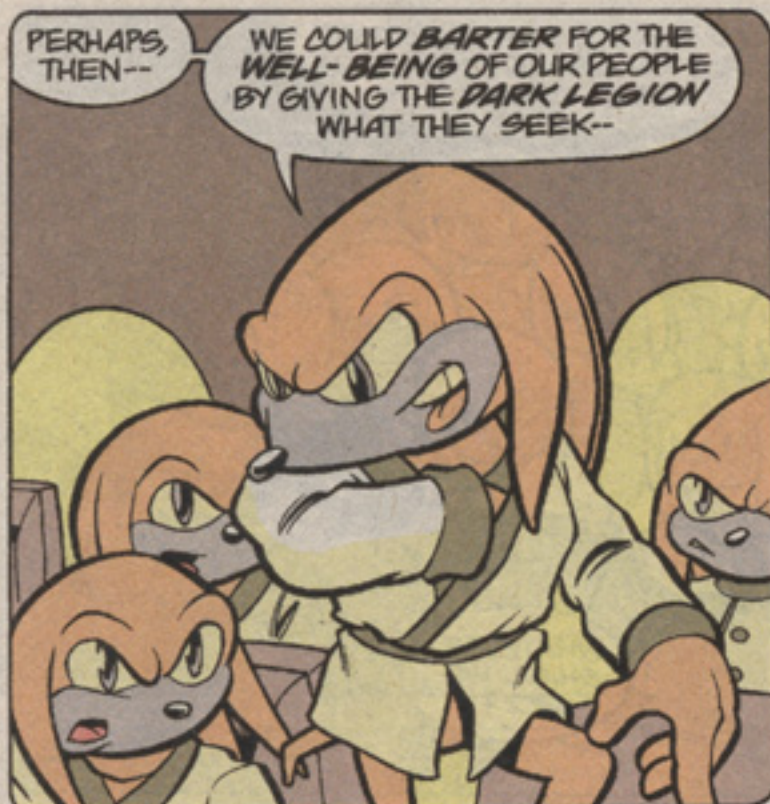
YOU!

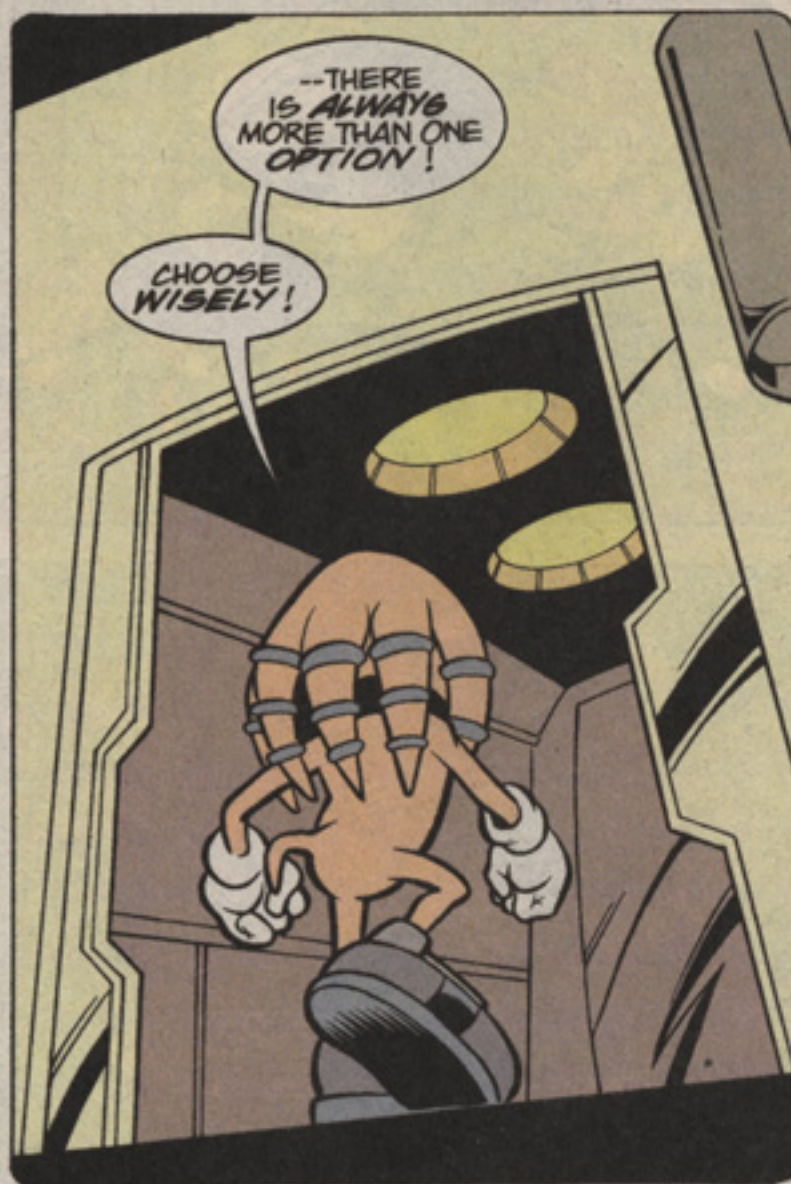
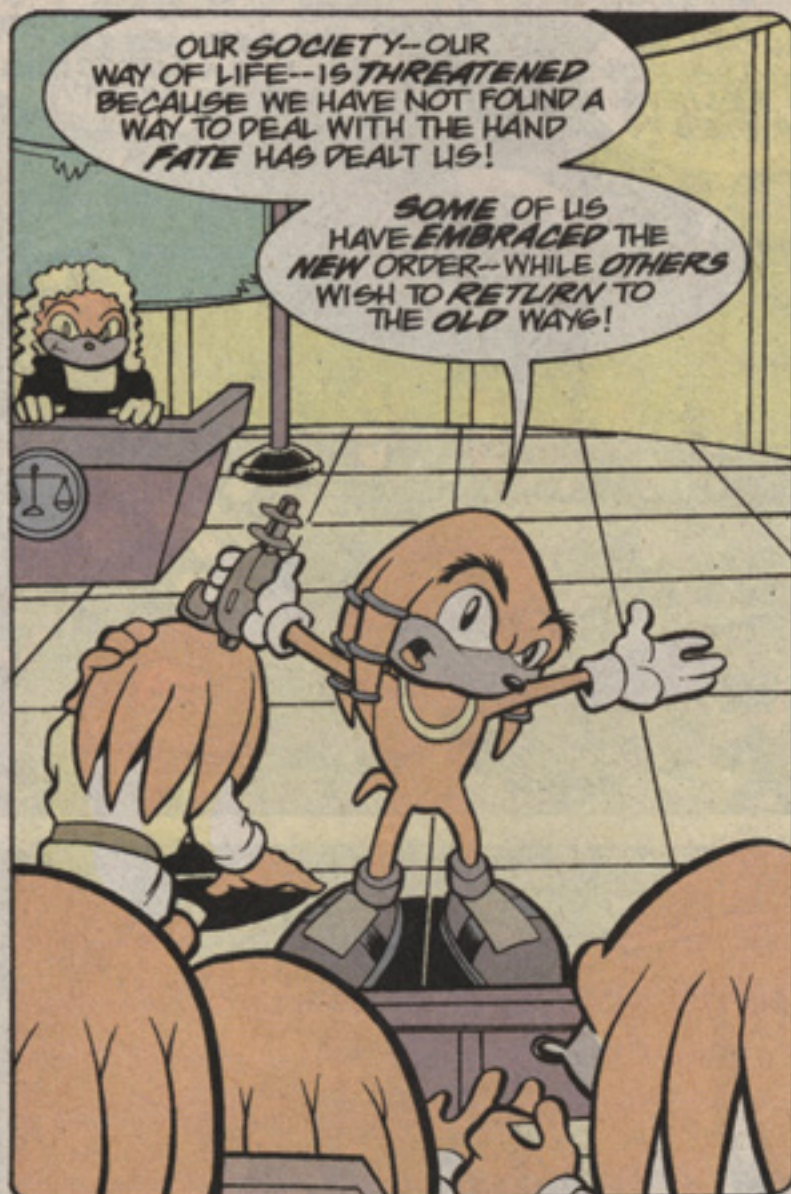
YOUR FAMILY
IS THE REASON
WE'RE IN THIS
MESS!

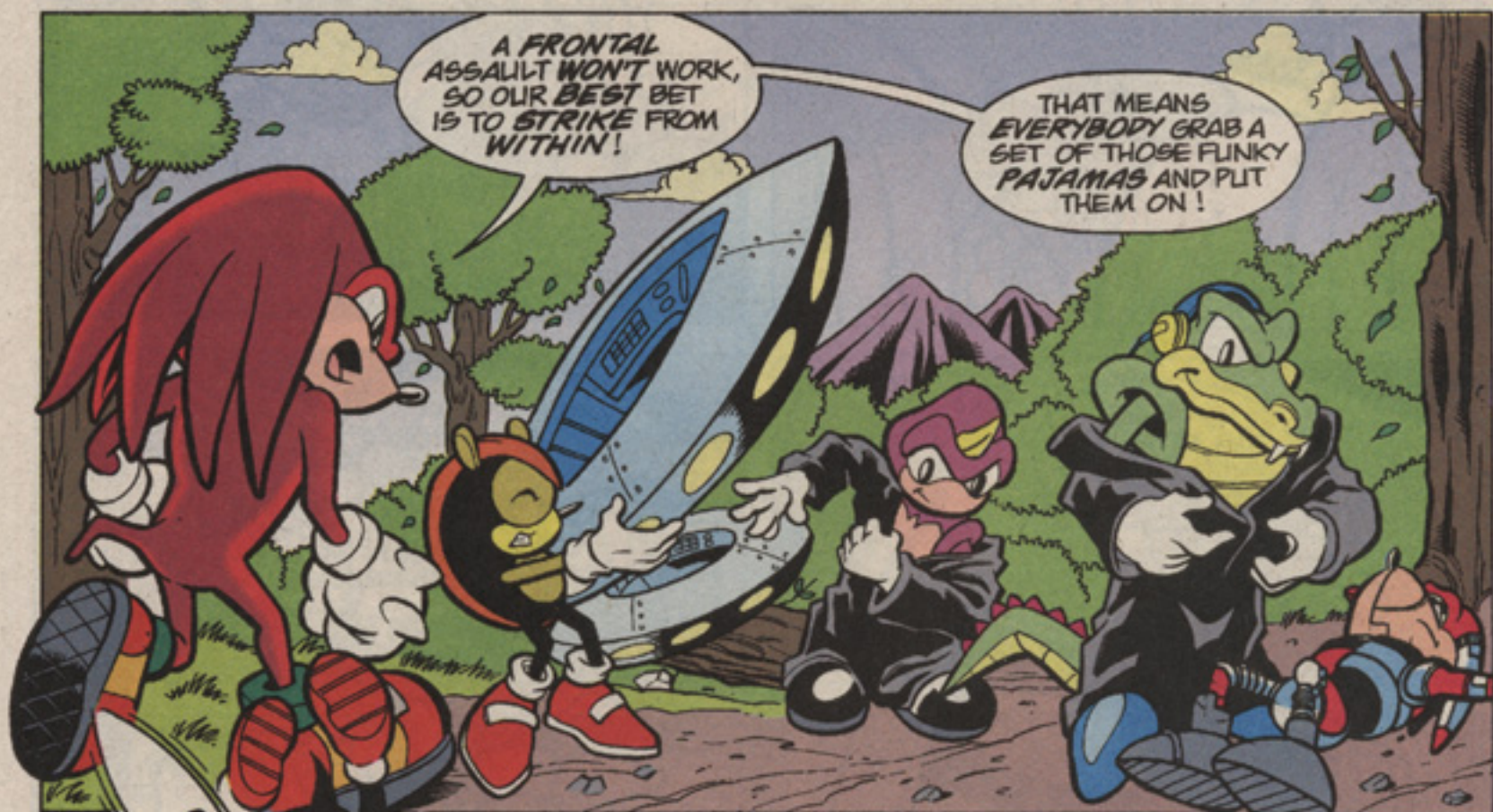


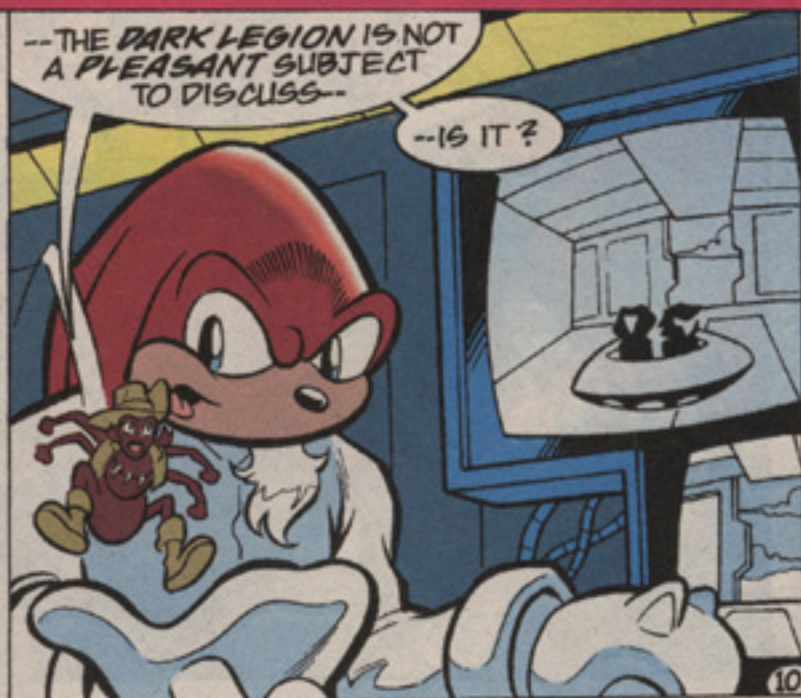
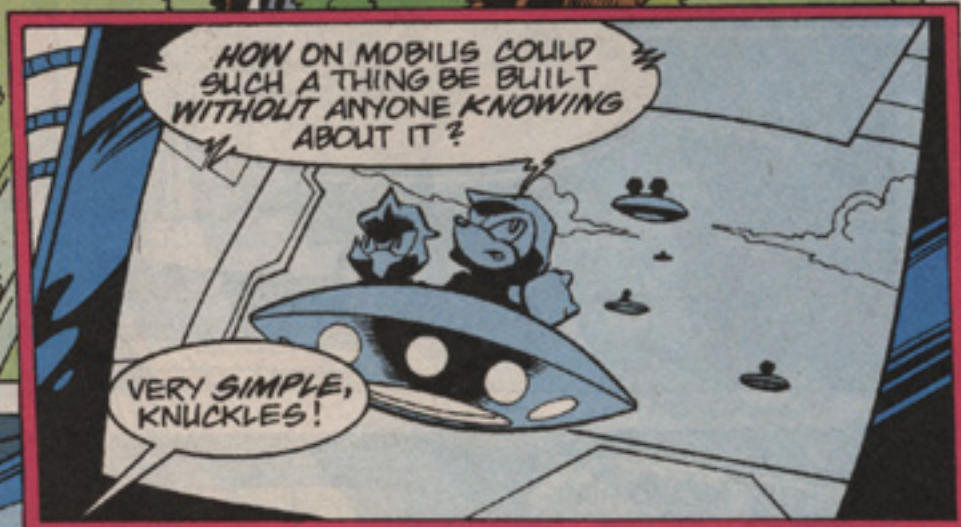
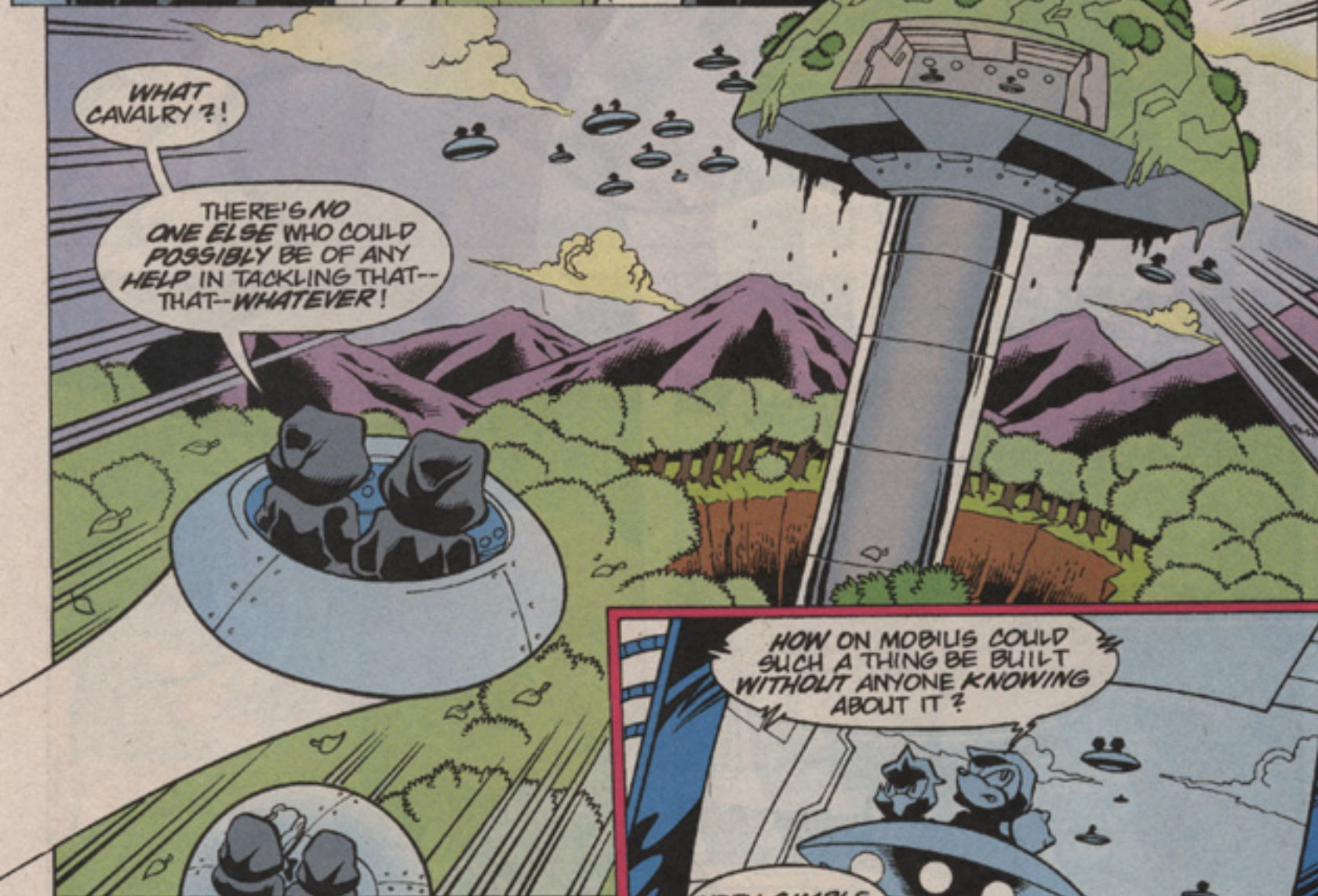
MY FAMILY IS ALSO THE
REASON OUR PEOPLE
STILL SURVIVE!

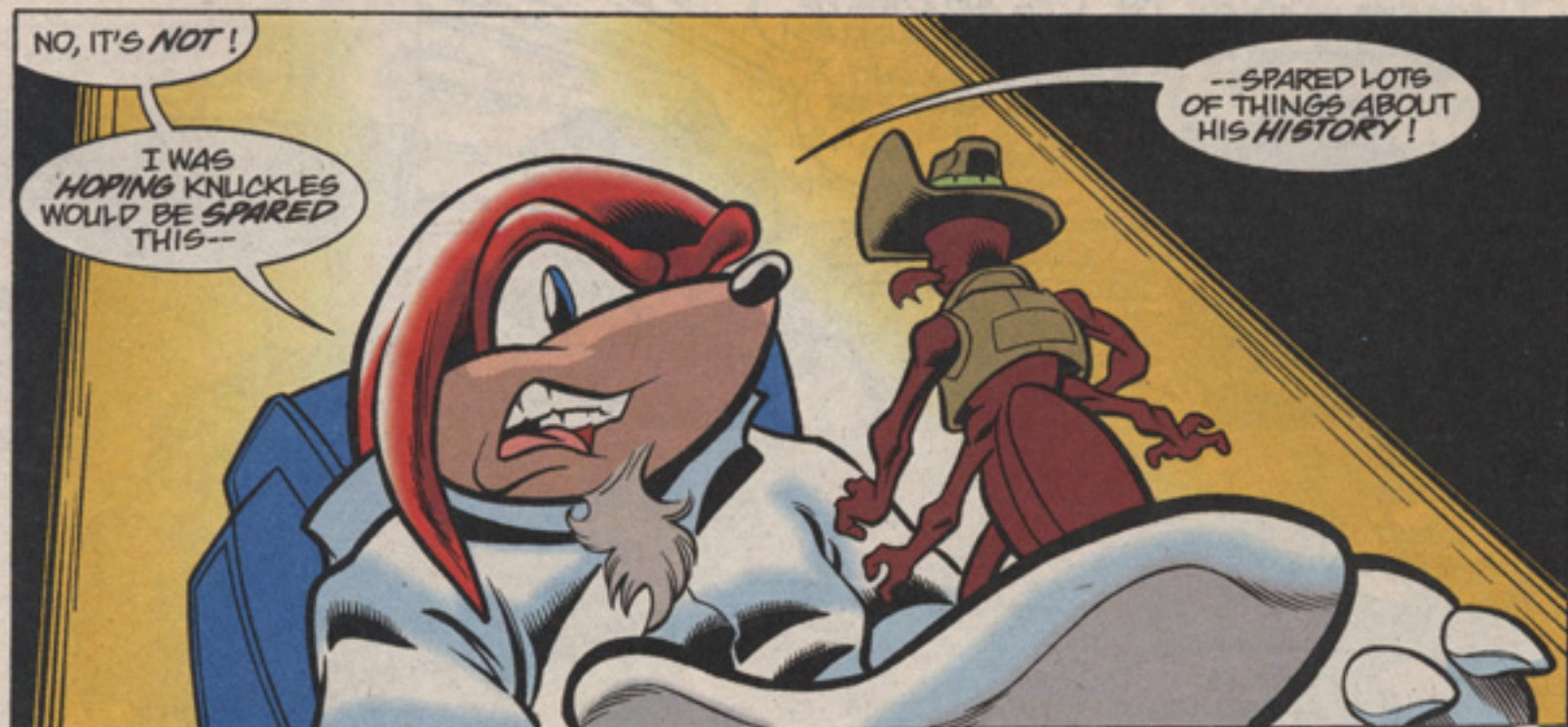
IS THAT A
FACT?





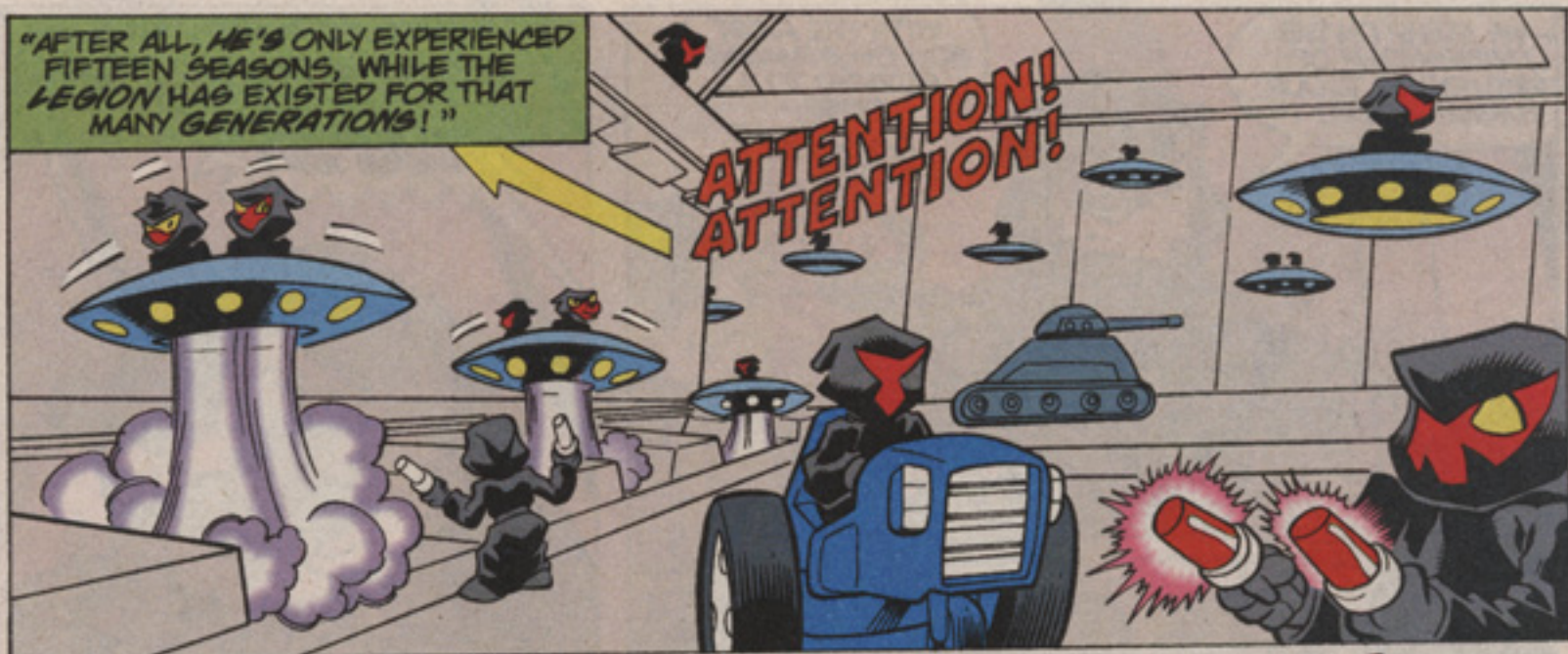






"AFTER ALL, HE'S ONLY EXPERIENCED FIFTEEN SEASONS, WHILE THE LEGION HAS EXISTED FOR THAT MANY GENERATIONS!"

ATTENTION!
ATTENTION!



ALL PERSONNEL ARE
TO ASSEMBLE IN THE
GREAT HALL!

THE GREAT
HALL?

IXNAY,
MIGHTY!

JUST
FOLLOW THE
PROCESSION!



SAY, KNUX,
ISN'T THAT--?

GREAT HALL

--SHORT,
SCARY AND UGLY?
YEAH, THAT'S HIM
ALRIGHT!

ANY IDEA
WHAT THIS IS
ABOUT?

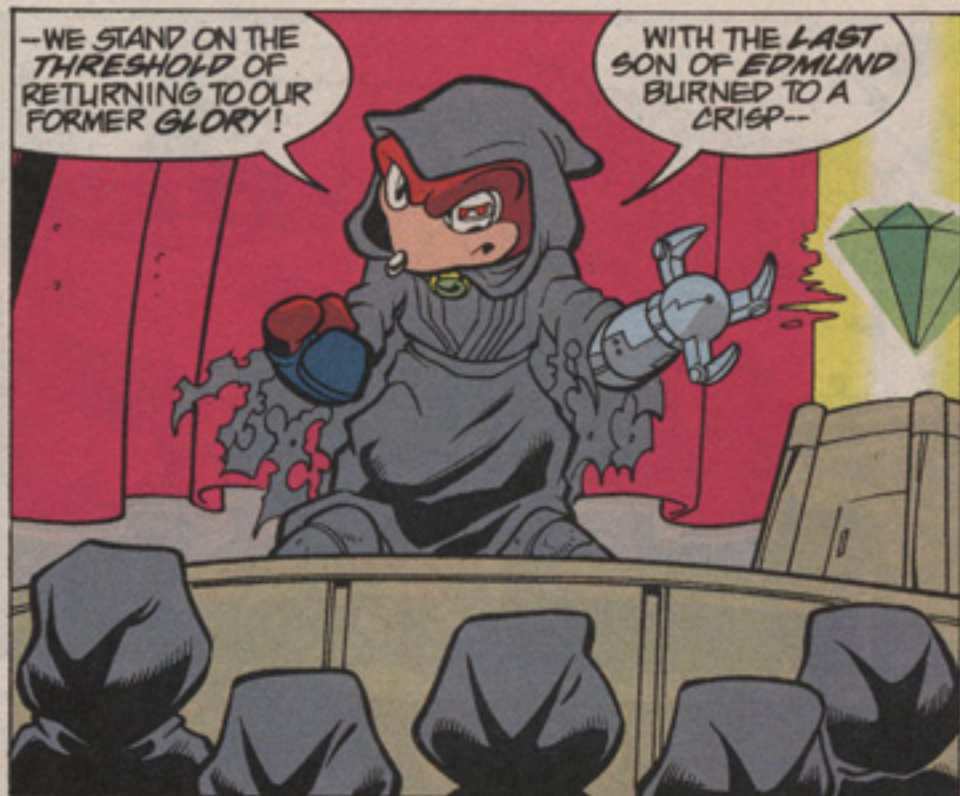
"WHAT ELSE BUT--"

THE CHAOS
EMERALD!

THIS IS
WHAT IT HAS
ALWAYS BEEN
ABOUT!

AFTER ALL
THIS TIME--





FAN ART

KNUCKLES

Cara Kelly
Braintree, MA



Joe Chna
Laguna Hills
Age 11



KNUCKLES, Archimedes
AND THE
CHAOTIX!



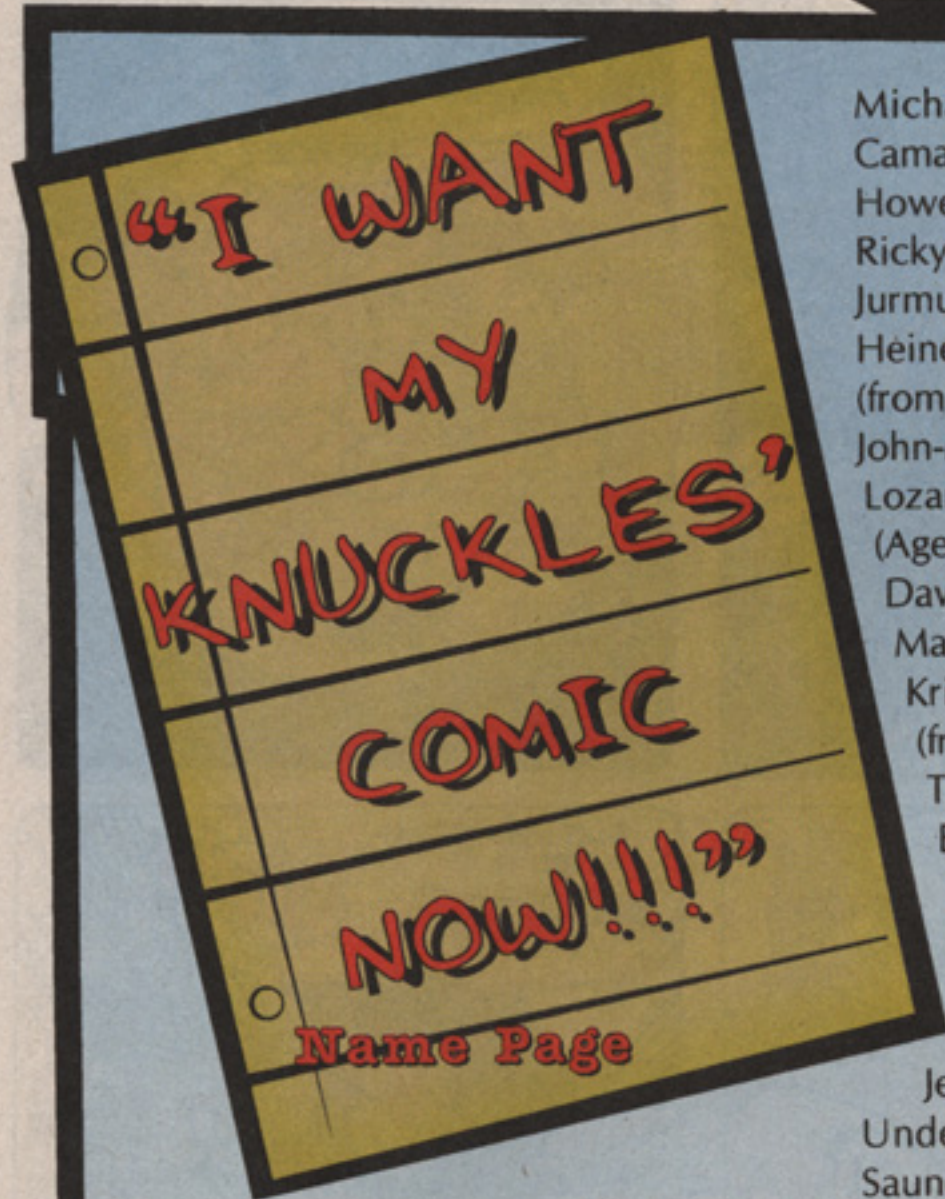
Heath Ziegenfuss
Cleveland, Aust
Age 12



Christy Largent
Traverse, MI
Age 12

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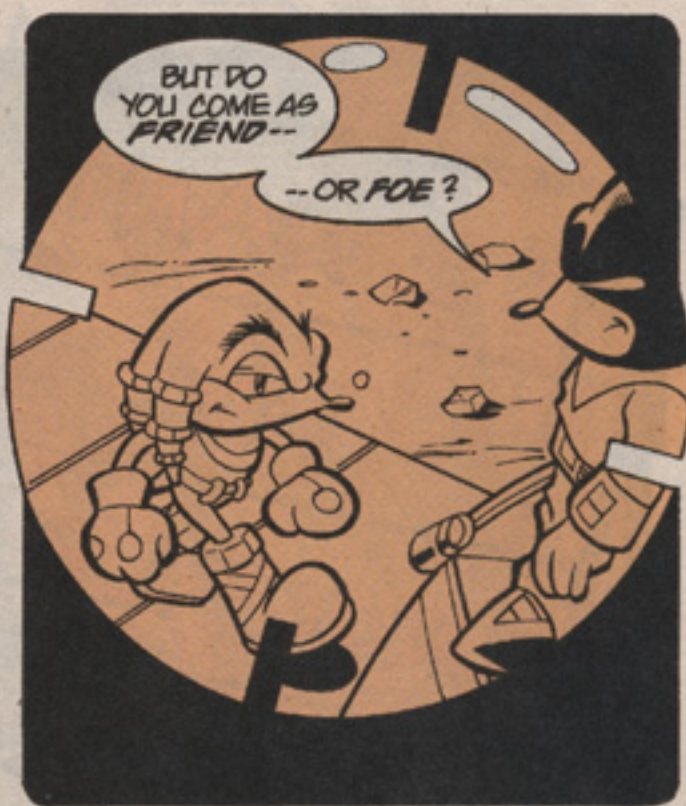
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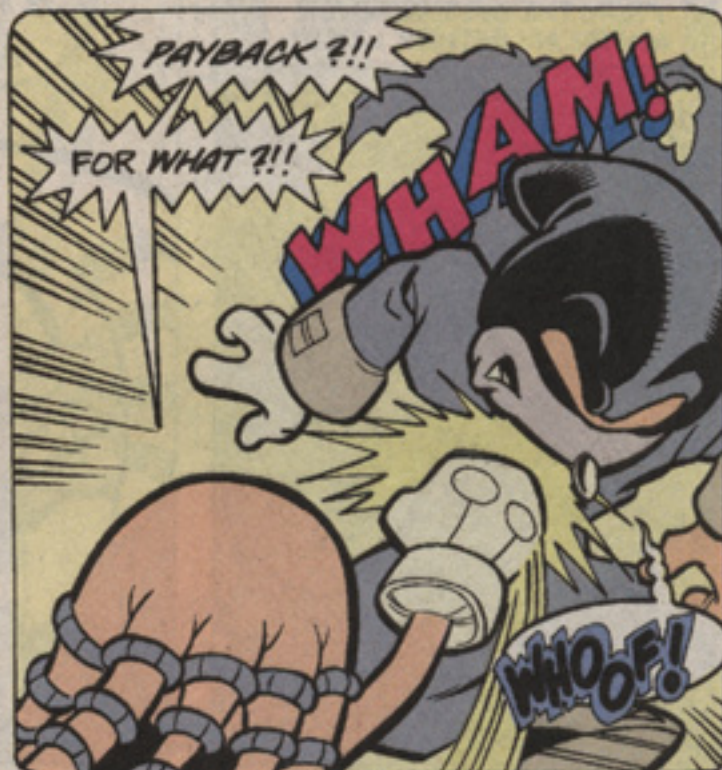
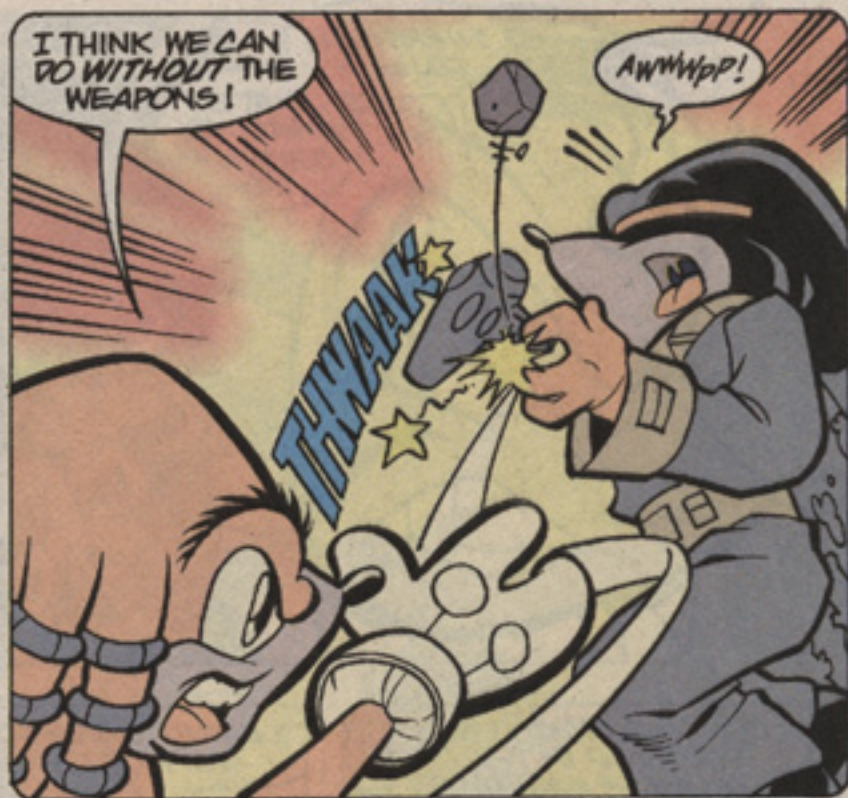


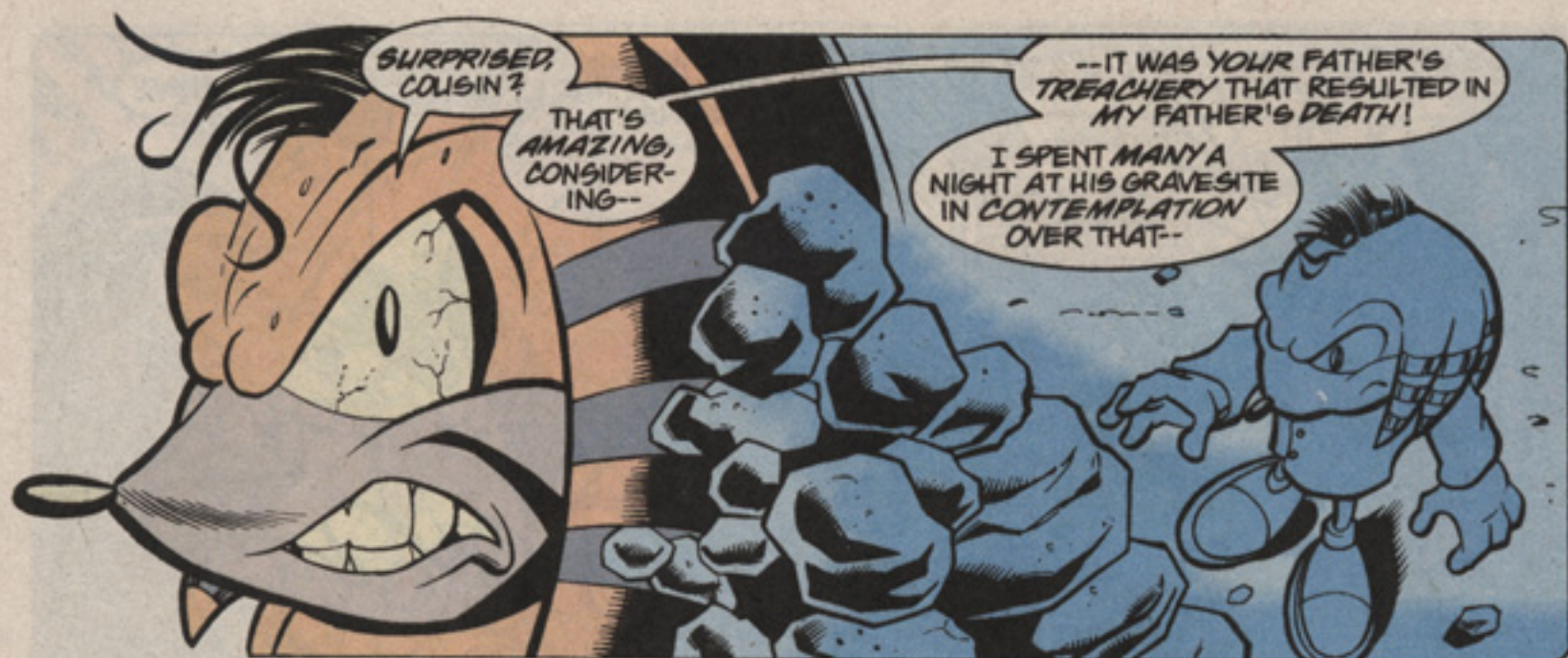
Lien Nguyen, Mylo Yin (Age 8), Kelly Rose, Josh Davis (Age 11), Patrick "Knuckles" Parr, Philip Mik, Paul J. Wright, Ryan Powell, David Clussman, Alix Banegas, Sean Tonelli, Jonathan Nappi, Timothy Pitts, Michael Sahagun, Joseph Arcos, Carletta Davis, Hunter DeBlanc, Ben Sloup, Branden Lema (Age 8), Amilee "Starblade" Hagon, Steve Strozewski, Boyd Essex, Brandon Cody, Logan Lawson, Ryan Orman (Age 10), Ray Schultz, Devin Threw, Eric Skala, Quinn Landes (Age 10), Tom Keiffen Jr, Matthew Faehnrich, Dennis Salliby, Lovic Ingram, Travis Akin, Jesse Skene, Daniel Balaz, Thomas Antonio (Age 8), Alphy Orozco, Nicole Phelan (Nice card), Eddie J. Beebe (Age 9), Leonardo Cadiac, Eric Middendorf,

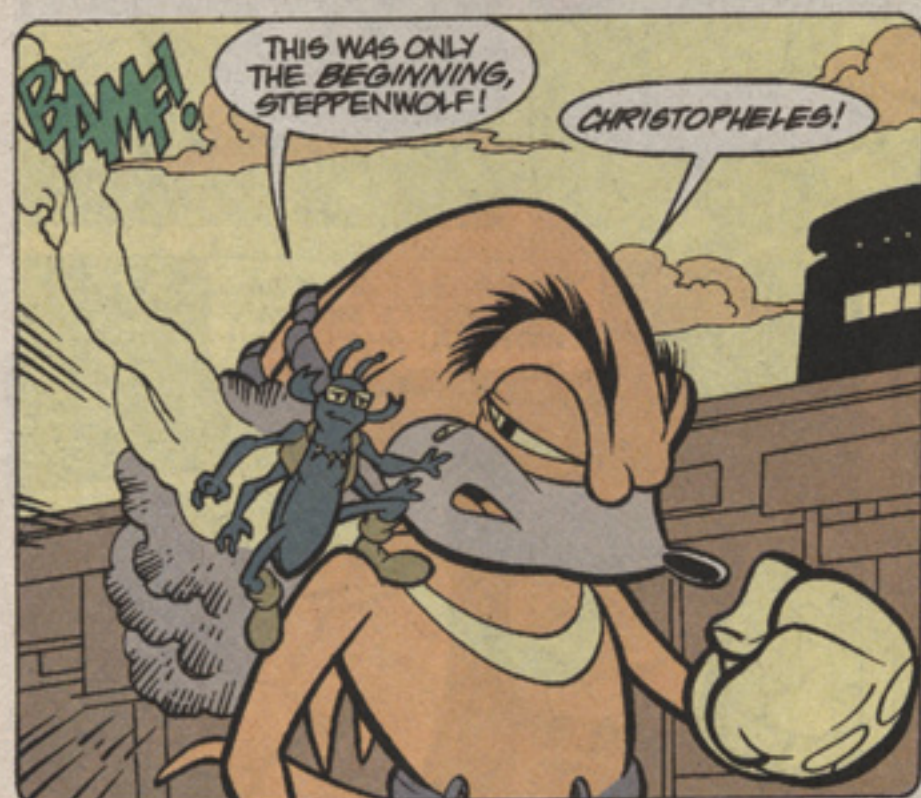
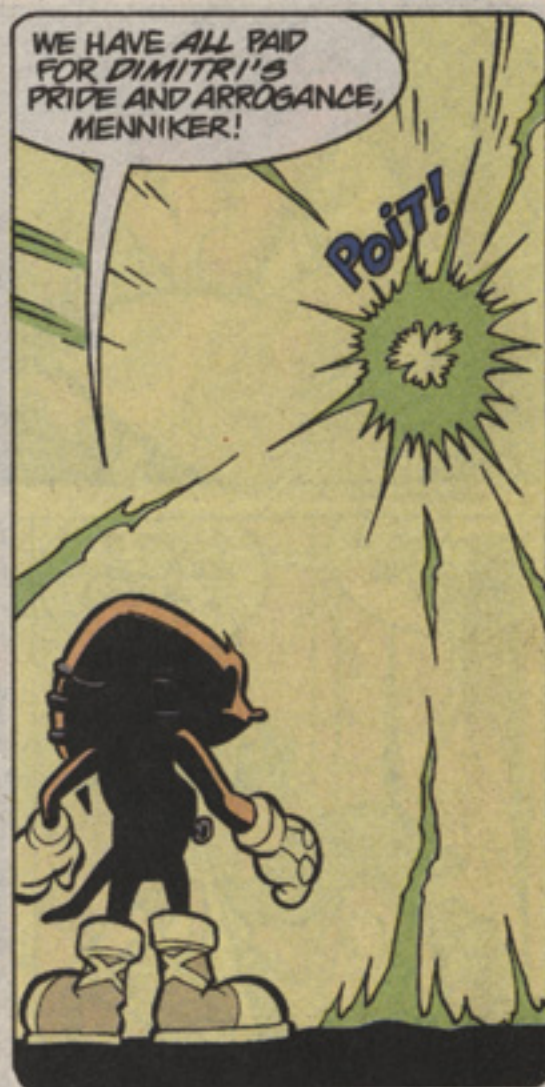
Michael Strothers (Age 10), Nina Camalo, Susan Hatfield (x2), Darnel J. Howerton, Tabitha Mahaffey Neumeier, Ricky Tomoamscaín, Kevin Lever, Peter Jurmu, David Wright (Age 11), Darryl Heine, Jonathan Ellison, Brandy Lewis (from Canada), Jennifer Lantrip (Age 14), John-Michael Berger (Age 8), Jonathan Lozano, Kristan Jacque, Michael Cote (Age 10 from Canada), "Kitty" Candiff, Dawn Best, B.J. Kvitko, John Frey, Matt Mason, Sean Tonelli, Ian Hamilton, Kristen George (age 13), Brian Dodge (from Canada), Eric Haaker, Michael Trygg, Adam Potts, Jennifer Lynn Blum., Erin Middendorf, Ryan Williams, Dustin Scobell, Brooke Lawson, Dereck Combow, Joshua Talbott, Andrew West, Earl Jordan, Matthew Kucharski, Ryan Jennings, Addam Bjerke, Matthew Underwood, Dave Snyder, Keith Saunders (from Canada), DJ Auman, Cory Haruska, Peter Waldman, Alexis Sieman, Leah Colvard, Kenneth Hill, Andrew Cline, Drew Griffin, Joshua Curtis, Rex Hughes II, Justin Kuret, Nathan Cooper, Jason Workman, Michele Harris, Jonah Rank, Te Grant, Gretchen Richards, Jeremy "Sonic" Pesner (with pen pal Amanda), Jesse Thiessen, Danny Kwitowski, Andy Omelczuk, Mike Nakashima, Tyson Simkins, Darnell Howerton, Aaron Corders, Joshua Markland, Matthew Ross, Heath Ziegenfusz, Leemarc "Nix" Lao, Chris Baker (Age 10), Cara B., Ryan Whitman, Philip (no last name), Wade N. Welch, Brian Nichols, Abby Curtis, Nick Sobottka, Derek "the way past cool one" Allen, Jason Fuselier & Allison Taunton, Sean Rose, Eric Starr, and Peta Fenton (Age 14)!!!

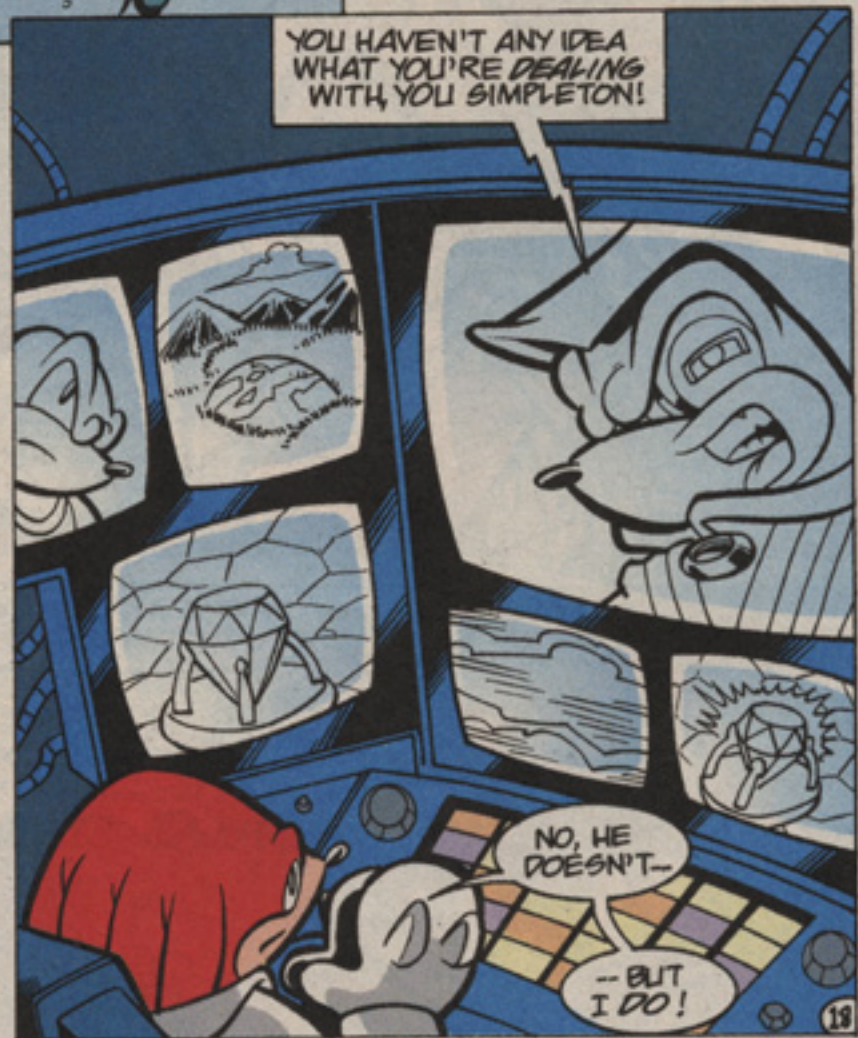
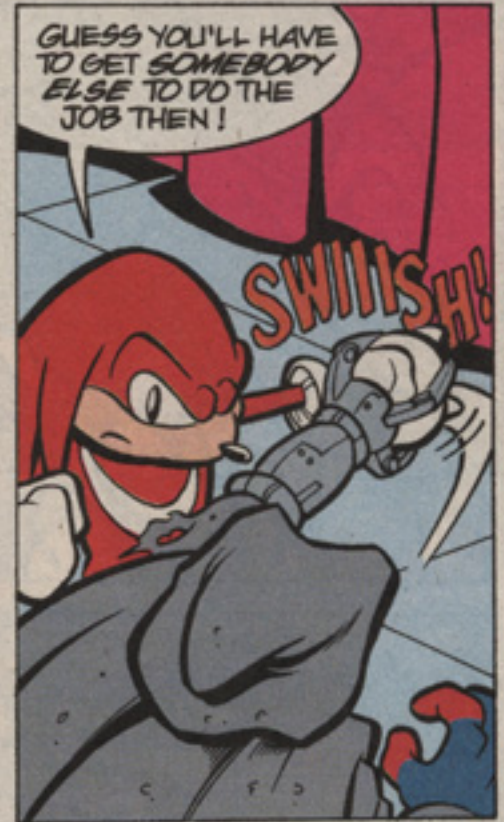
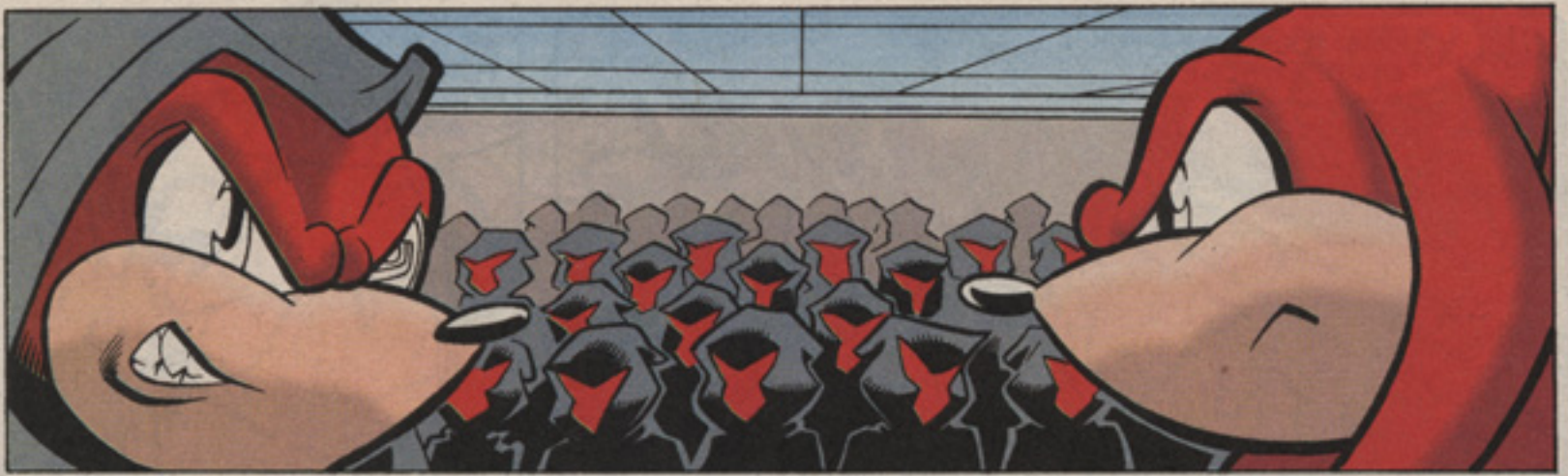


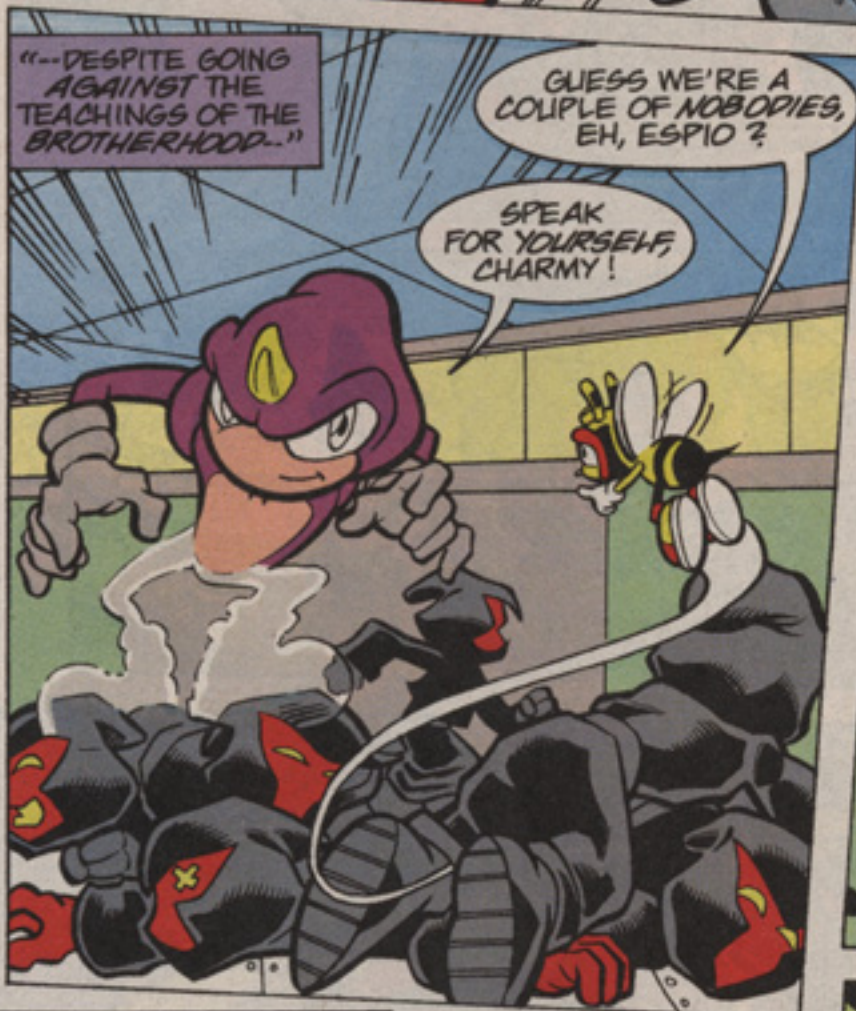
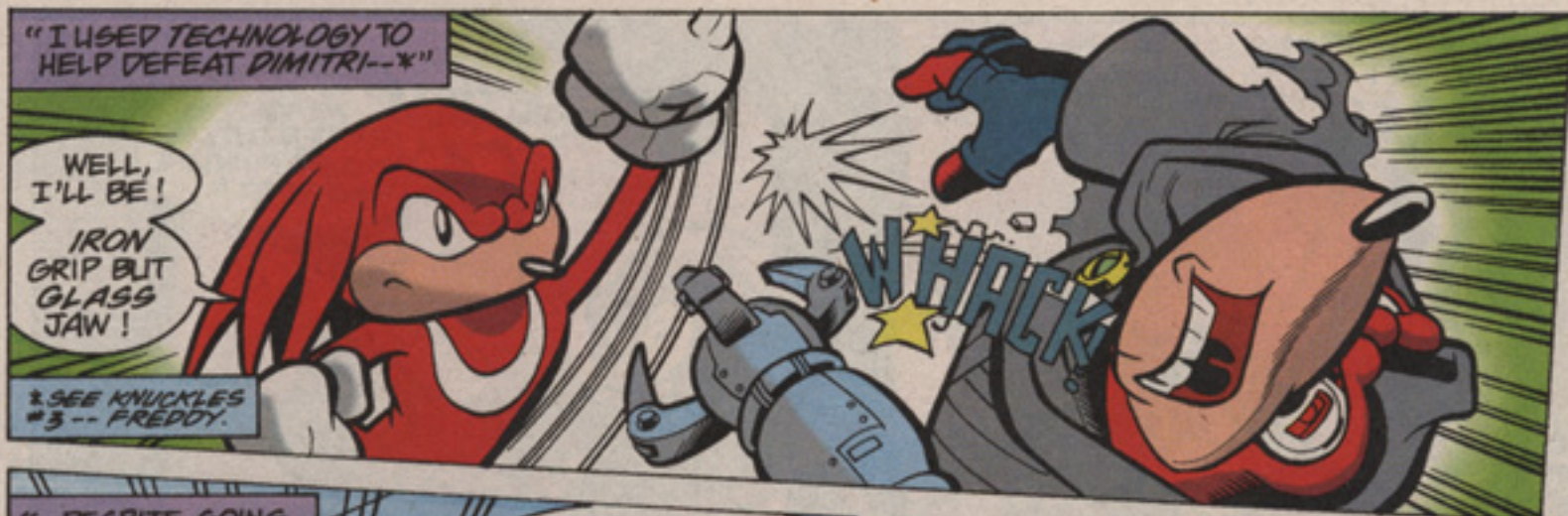


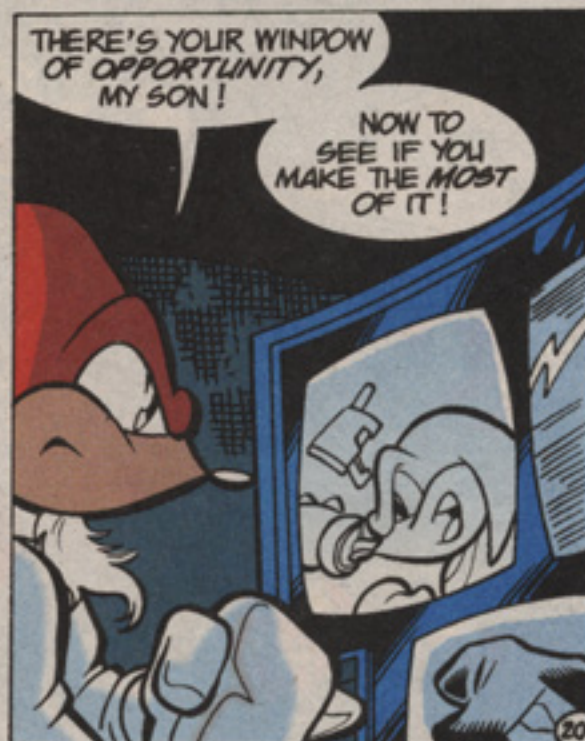
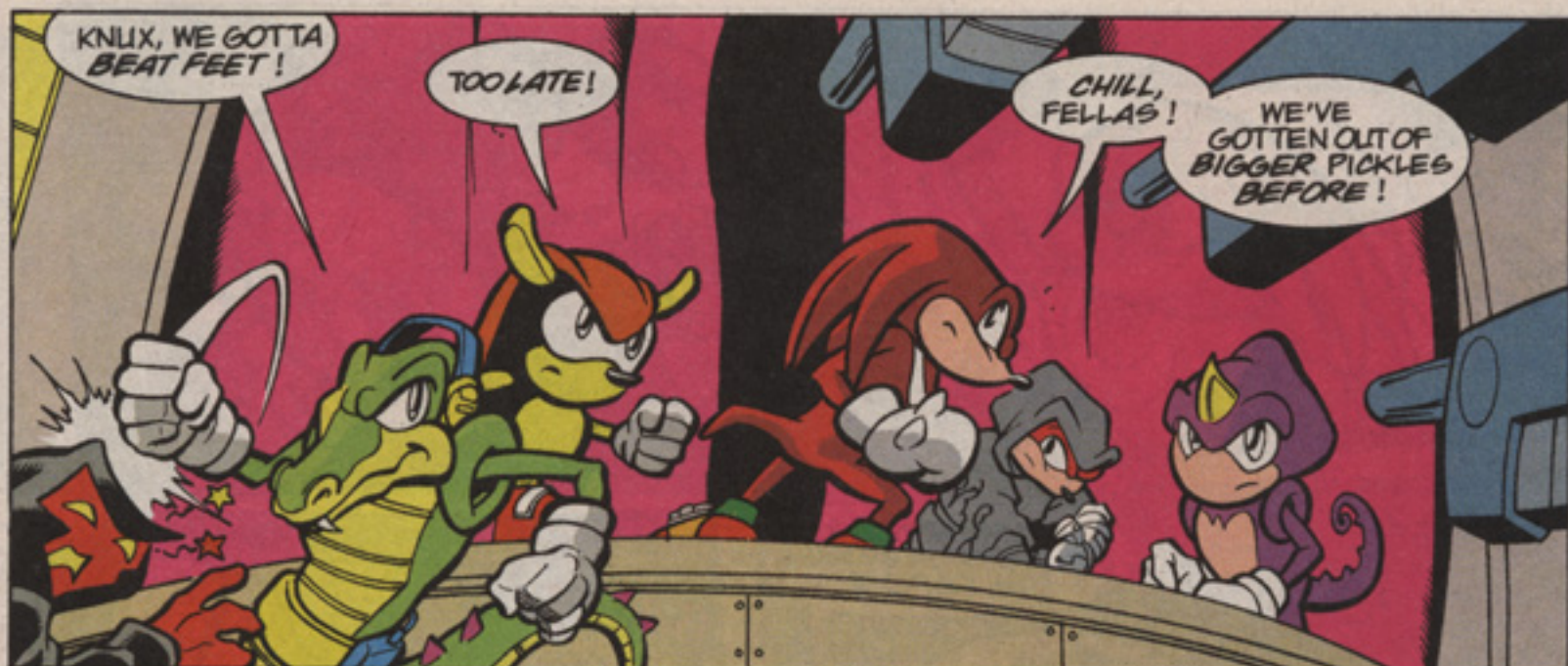


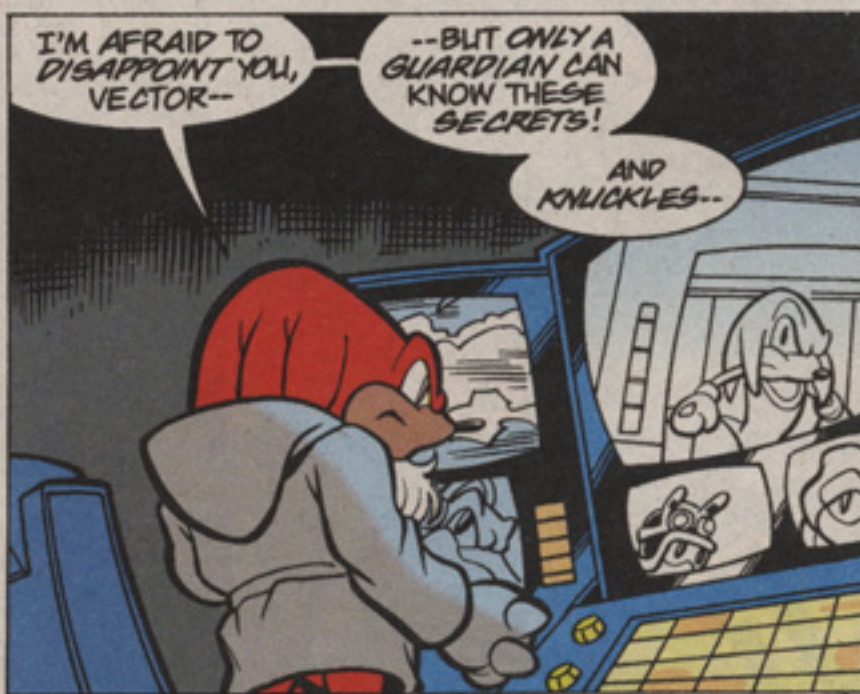












NOT A TRACE OF
'EM ANYWHERE,
KNUCKLES!

THEY
MUST'VE HAD A
PRE-ARRANGED
ESCAPE ROUTE!

NUTS!
WE WERE SO
UNPREPARED
FOR THEM THIS
TIME!

NEXT TIME,
HOWEVER--

NEXT TIME WILL
BE A DIFFERENT
STORY!

THE END--
FOR NOW!

LOOK FOR KNUCKLES TO RETURN IN THE NOT-TOO-DISTANT FUTURE IN
KNUCKLES: LOST PARADISE!

SONIC & KNUCKLES

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let's get ready to

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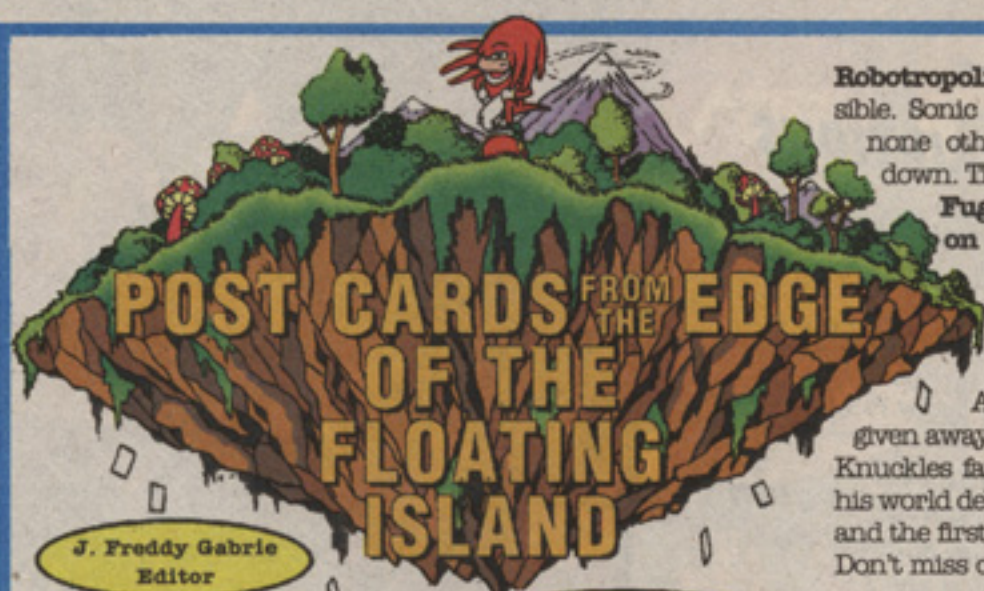
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OFFER EXPIRES
MAY 31, 1997
!!!

COLOR NOTES:
GREY ROBES
PENDANT ON
WHITE CLOVE
ARM... EYE
SHINY AND



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We

have reached the end of the **Dark Legion** series, but **Knuckles** continues on... ongoing that is! That's right!



**KNUCKLES
THE ECHIDNA #4
On sale MAY 1997!**

Because of your overwhelming support to see Knuckles become a regular series, it has now become reality! In sixty days, get set for the premiere of **KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #4**, starting a new chapter in the life of everyone's favorite Guardian of the Floating Island. In a three-part epic, "**LOST PARADISE**" reunites Knuckles with the one person he never ever expected to see. But an even bigger problem occurs when the fabled city of **Echidnaopolis** reappears, posing a

threat to the Floating Island's ecosystem. Don't miss the echidna excitement with regulars Ken Penders, Manny Galan and Andrew Pepoy. In the tradition of the first three issues, every three-part story-arc will sport **triple-combo covers** by fan-fave Pat 'Spaz' Iante along with inks by Ken Penders and colors by those maniacs at Heroic Age!

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all those Knuckle Nuts who made this series possible. Thanks also goes to my creative team: Ken P., Manny G., Andrew P., Vickie W., Karl B., The Spaz-Man and Heroic Age. Special thanks to Susan Suarez and Cynthia Wilkes at Sega of America as well as Helen Ball and Neal Seideman at Strategy Licensing.

In four weeks, read the issue that will force you to take sides. Who will you root for: **Sonic & The Freedom Fighters** or... **Knuckles & The Chaotix**? That's right, fans. They will go head to head for the prize: **The King's Sword of Acorns!** Promoted by **Mammoth Mogul** and **The Fearsome Foursome!** This is promising to be the biggest sporting event yet. **SONIC VS. KNUCKLES: BATTLE ROYAL Special #1**, on sale late April 1997!

On other Mobius news, in two weeks "**End Game**" continues. The stakes between **Robotnik** and the **Freedom Fighters** reaches a fever-pitch. The now-healthy **King Acorn** loses his daughter in an attack on

Robotropolis, and Sonic is arrested as the culprit responsible. Sonic escapes to clear his name. The King orders none other than **Geoffrey St. John** to track him down. That's when things get nasty. Read "**Sonic The Fugitive!**" in **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #48**, on sale April 1997! Whatever you do, don't miss this one!

FEED

BIG P.S.: DON'T MISS THE CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT NEXT ISSUE! Prizes will be given away including **SONIC 3** game buttons (and as any Knuckles fan knows, **SONIC 3** is where Knuckles made his world debut), **SONIC & KNUCKLES** game mini-posters and the first prize is an original pin-up by Spaz & Manny! Don't miss out!

Yo! Rad Red,

Is the "hot" life good to you? Well, hi! My name's Elizabeth, but you can call me Liz, okay? Anyway "hot" guy, these are my questions... 1) Why do you and Sonic usually fight? 2) How do you get on and off The Floating Island? 3) How come Australians can't use comic coupons?! Well I guess I'll be back. So long, Knuckles.

Luv,
Liz

RSD Rosevale
Tas. Australia 7292

What's up, Liz? I have to say it's been real "hot" since the announcement of my new ongoing status. Now on to some answers... 1) Sonic and I annoy each other. That's all. It's nothing personal. He thinks he's so cool, you have to take him down a peg or two. 2) I use my dreadlocks to catch the wind so I can glide on and off. 3) Because international mail can get so tricky, between shipping and handling costs, currency changes and no guarantee that it will make it to you on time (if at all) we cannot, in good conscience, offer it to readers outside the U.S. and Canada. Ask your local retailer if they carry any back issues.

Hello!

Some questions, if you please: 1) Who is the echidna scientist that introduced the white comet threat to the rest of Echidnaopolis? 2) Is there any purpose for Chaos Emeralds other than turning Sonic and Knuckles "super/hyper" and making The Floating Island float? 3) Can you ditch Robotnik? We're all sick of the round guy, Sonic especially.

Forget me (K)not(hole),
Kurt Diehl
Torrence, CA

(but currently residing with a friend in TN)

Answer time: 1) The name of the echidna scientist is Kayla-la. She will always be remembered. 2) Robotnik is constantly looking for oil, and these days it is in short supply. That's why he looks toward the power rings that have a limited amount of energy and the Chaos Emeralds for their limitless supply of power. All those looking for power want that gem. 3) Things are cooking up at Robotropolis even as we speak. Check out **SONIC #47-#50** for the lowdown.

That's it for this month. See you in June! Knuckles signing off!

Because of limited space, the editors cannot guarantee that all correspondence will be published and reserve the right to edit messages as they see fit.

DUE TO AN OVERSIGHT, VICKIE WILLIAMS SHOULD BE CREDITED AS LETTERER FOR THE LAST TWO ISSUES.

440